

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 122759

62

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 COA-02 SSO-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 CG-00 SCSE-00 H-02

SCI-06 /051 R

DRAFTED BY AF/ S: WELANDFAIR: AMH

6/22/73 X23274

APPROVED BY AF/ S: JWFOLEY

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O 222139 Z JUN 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 122759

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN

SUBJ: AMERICAN DRILLING RIG IN DISTRESS

DEPARTMENT INFORMED BY BILL KENT , PRESIDENT OF READING
AND BATES DRILLING COMPANY, HOUSTON, TEXAS THAT A DRILLING
RIG OWNED BY HIS FIRM, THE " CHRIS SEGER" IS IN DISTRESS
OFF PORT ELIZABETH BUT HAS BEEN DENIED PERMISSION ENTER
PORT BY AUTHORITIES WHO FEAR OIL POLLUTION. RIG IS
UNDER TOW BY TUG " POOLZEE" OWNED BY SMIT INTERNATIONAL
OF ROTTERDAM. TUG AND RIG LEFT CAPE TOWN JUNE 17 BOUND
FOR SINGAPORE BUT ENCOUNTERED SEVERE STORMS ENROUTE
WHICH HAVE CRIPPLED RIG AND IT IN DANGER OF SINKING.
KENT SAID HE HAS NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO HAVE RIG TOWED
INTO PORT ELIZABETH AND FACE LEGAL CONSEQUENCES. HE
ADDED THAT OIL TANKS ON RIG LONG SINCE RUPTURED AND THEY
NOW FILLED ONLY WITH SEA WATER SO THERE NO DANGER OF POL-

LUTION. CONGEN IS REQUESTED DO WHATEVER POSSIBLE TO
FACILITATE ENTRY OF TUG AND RIG INTO PORT ELIZABETH. RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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